

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. to 94. (canceled)

95. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising the DNA construct according to claim 122.

96. (previously presented) A host cell transformed with the DNA construct according to claim 122.

97. (previously presented) The host cell according to claim 96, wherein the cell is selected from the group consisting of a bacterial cell, a yeast cell, and a plant cell.

98. (previously presented) A transgenic plant transformed with the DNA construct according to claim 122.

99. (previously presented) The transgenic plant according to claim 98, wherein the plant is papaya.

100. (previously presented) A transgenic plant seed comprising the DNA construct according to claim 122.

101. (previously presented) The transgenic plant seed according to claim 100, wherein the plant is papaya.

102. (previously presented) A DNA construct comprising in operable linkage:

a single promoter sequence;

a first DNA molecule which has a length that is insufficient to independently impart resistance to papaya ringspot virus to plants transformed with said first DNA molecule, wherein the first DNA molecule is from a DNA molecule encoding a papaya ringspot virus coat protein and is at least 110 nucleotides in length;

a second DNA molecule, wherein the second DNA molecule is coupled to the first DNA molecule, wherein the second DNA molecule is at least 400 nucleotides in length, wherein the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule collectively achieve post-transcriptional silencing of papaya ringspot virus coat protein and impart resistance to papaya ringspot virus to plants transformed with said DNA construct; and wherein the single promoter sequence effects transcription of the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule; and

a single termination sequence which ends transcription of the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule.

103. (canceled)

104. (currently amended) The DNA construct according to claim 102, wherein said second DNA molecule is selected from the group consisting of a viral DNA molecule, a fluorescence protein encoding DNA molecule, and ~~combinations~~ a combination thereof.

105. (currently amended) The DNA construct according to claim 102, wherein ~~said fragment~~ of the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule encode RNA molecules which are translatable.

106. (previously presented) The DNA construct according to claim 102, wherein the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule are nontranslatable.

107. (canceled)

108. (previously presented) The DNA construct according to claim 102, wherein the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule do not interact with one another.

109. (canceled)

110. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising the DNA construct of claim 102.

111. (previously presented) A host cell transformed with the DNA construct according to claim 102.

112. (previously presented) The host cell according to claim 111, wherein the cell is selected from the group consisting of a bacterial cell, a yeast cell, and a plant cell.

113. (previously presented) A transgenic plant transformed with the DNA construct according to claim 102.

114. (previously presented) The transgenic plant according to claim 113, wherein the second DNA molecule is heterologous to the plant.

115. (previously presented) The transgenic plant according to claim 113, wherein the plant is papaya.

116. (previously presented) A transgenic plant seed comprising the DNA construct according to claim 102.

117. (previously presented) The transgenic plant seed according to claim 116, wherein the plant is papaya.

118. (previously presented) A method of imparting papaya ringspot virus resistance to a plant comprising:

transforming a plant with the DNA construct according to claim 122, thereby imparting papaya ringspot virus resistance to the plant.

119. (previously presented) The method according to claim 118, wherein the plant is papaya.

120. (previously presented) A method of imparting papaya ringspot virus resistance to a plant comprising:

transforming a plant with the DNA construct according to claim 102, thereby imparting papaya ringspot virus resistance to the plant.

121. (previously presented) The method according to claim 120, wherein the plant is papaya.

122. (previously presented) A DNA construct comprising in operable linkage:

a single promoter sequence which effects transcription of a plurality of DNA molecules;

a plurality of DNA molecules each of which is at least 110 nucleotides in length and at least one of which is of a length insufficient to impart resistance to papaya ringspot virus to plants transformed therewith and is from a DNA encoding papaya ringspot virus coat protein, wherein the plurality of DNA molecules collectively are at least 510 nucleotides in length, and wherein the plurality of DNA molecules effect post-transcriptional silencing of papaya ringspot virus coat protein and impart resistance to papaya ringspot virus in plants transformed with said DNA construct; and a single termination sequence which ends transcription of the plurality of DNA molecules.